REMARKS

After receiving a Notice of Allowance, Applicants' undersigned representative was informed about published and issued patent applications that are identified in a separately submitted form PTOSB-08. To expedite consideration of the newly cited documents. Applicants provide the following comments.

U.S. Patents 7,288,554 and 7,674,936 (both of which claim priority based on provisional application 60/312423) disclose compounds having the general formula

in which the various substituents are defined in the '554 and '936 patents. Although the -K-J group can be a pyrrolylcarboxamide moiety (e.g., formula U-26 in column 9 line 20, taken with amide groups as defined at column 1, line 65), the -L-R³ group must be an acyl or acyl-like moiety having no counterpart in Applicants' claimed invention.

U.S. Patent 6,291,452 and its published continuations US 2002/0002163 and 2002/0183313 (both of which claim the same 1996 priority) disclose compounds having structures unlike those of Applicants' current claims. However, reference may be made to preparative example 6-1 of the '452 patent, which discloses a compound that may be similar to intermediates within original Claim 18, which has no counterpart in Applicants' current claims.

U.S. Patent 5,747,518 (which claims priority based on two Japanese applications) discloses thiophenes not within the scope of Applicants' current claims.

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Applicants believe that their claims remain patentable. Therefore, in view of the preceding remarks, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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